

Memorandum on Electronic Government's Role in Implementing the President's Management Agenda

July 9, 2002

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: Electronic Government's Role in Implementing the President's Management Agenda

My Administration's vision for Government reform is guided by three principles. Government should be citizen-centered, results-oriented, and market-based. These principles have been woven into the five Government-wide reform goals outlined in my Administration's Management Agenda: strategic management of human capital, budget and performance integration, competitive sourcing, expanded use of the internet and computer resources to provide Government services (Electronic-Government or E-Government), and improved financial management. Effective implementation of E-Government is important in making Government more responsive and cost-effective.

Our success depends on agencies working as a team across traditional boundaries to better serve the American people, focusing on citizens rather than individual agency needs. I thank agencies who have actively engaged in cross-agency teamwork, using E-Government to create more cost-effective and efficient ways to serve citizens, and I urge others to follow their lead.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 10.

Remarks to Federal Employees on the Proposed Department of Homeland Security

July 10, 2002

Thank you all very much. Please be seated. Thank you. Thanks for that warm welcome. It's such a pleasure to be here today, and I want to thank you all for coming. I'm here to thank each one of you for your dedication to the country we all love. You worked hard

prior to September the 11th. You're working really hard now, and the American people appreciate it a lot, and so do I.

You know, the amazing thing about America is, our Nation is stronger today than it was before the enemy hit. I like to remind people, they must have not understood who they were dealing with. They probably thought we might file a lawsuit or two—[laughter]—but they didn't understand the character of the American people, the strength and resolve of our great land to defend that which we hold dear, which is freedom. Nor did they understand the energy and drive of the people who work on behalf of the American people to do everything we can—and I say “we”—we can, to protect and guard our people. And that's what's happening today in America, and I want to thank you for your dedication.

And we've got to do more. We've got to move forward. We've got to seize the moment to do everything we can to assure the American people that our Government and the fine folks who work on behalf of the taxpayers are working in a smart way, in a dedicated way.

And today I want to talk some about the creation of the Department of Homeland Security and why it's important to our country. And I call upon your continued sense of duty to our country as we develop the new plans. Oh, it's not going to be easy, and the challenges are going to be great. But there's no doubt in my mind that we'll do what's necessary—do what's necessary—to protect America.

I want to thank Chung for her introduction. Backstage, we had a picture taken. I said, “Only in America”—only in America do we have somebody as dedicated as—people like Chung, who are willing to sacrifice on behalf of the United States of America, use their time and talent and energy like everybody in this hall to work for others. So, Chung, thanks for your hard work, thanks for your dedication to your job, and thanks for representing the good folks in this hall.

When I go back to Crawford, people say—or I see my friends from Texas, they say, “Gosh, it must be hard to be the President.” I say, “Well, not really, if you've got a good